

Appl. No.: 10/722,966
Reply to Office Action of: 04/30/2007

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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) An electronic device, having an exterior surface, the electronic device comprising:

an actuator for providing, when enabled, a first texture at a first portion of the exterior surface of the electronic device and for providing, when disabled, a second texture at the first portion of the exterior surface of the electronic device;

a user interface for changing an operational mode of the electronic device from a first operational mode status of the device to a second operational mode status of the device; and

a processor operable to enable the actuator during the first status mode of the device and disable the actuator during the second status mode of the device, wherein the actuator provides the first texture at the first portion when the electronic device is in the first operational mode status, and wherein the actuator provides the second texture at the first portion when the electronic device is in the second operational mode status, and wherein the first portion is spaced from the user interface.

2. (Original) An electronic device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first texture provides discontinuities in the first portion of the exterior surface.

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3. (Original) An electronic device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first texture feels bumpy or rough to the touch.

4. (Original) An electronic device as claimed in claim 3, wherein the second texture feels relatively smooth to the touch.

5. (Currently amended) An electronic device as claimed in claim 1 wherein the actuator continuously provides the first texture at the first portion of the exterior surface of the electronic device while the electronic device ~~has~~ is in the first ~~status~~ mode.

6. (Currently amended) An electronic device as claimed in claim 5, wherein the actuator continuously provides the second texture at the first portion of the exterior surface of the electronic device while the electronic device ~~has~~ is in the second ~~status~~ mode.

7. (Original) An electronic device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the actuator comprises extendible projections, which are extended when the actuator is enabled and retracted when the actuator is disabled.

8. (Original) An electronic device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the actuator comprises extendible projections, which are extended when the actuator is disabled and retracted when the actuator is enabled.

9. (Original) An electronic device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the actuator comprises one or more polymer actuators.

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10. (Original) An electronic device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the actuator comprises one or more stepper motors.
11. (Original) An electronic device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the electronic device comprises a plurality of actuators and the processor is operable to selectively enable the actuators.
12. (Currently amended) An electronic device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first ~~status~~ mode of the electronic device is changeable to the second ~~status~~ mode only via user interface.
13. (Original) An electronic device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the actuator when enabled is indicative of an operational mode of the electronic device.
14. (Currently amended) An electronic device as claimed in claim 1, wherein immediate user attention is not necessary when the electronic device ~~has~~ is in the first ~~status~~ mode.
15. (Currently amended) An electronic device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the electronic device is operational when it ~~has~~ is in the first ~~status~~ mode and is non-operational when it ~~has~~ is in the second ~~status~~ mode.
16. (Currently amended) An electronic device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the electronic device is mute when it ~~has~~ is in the first ~~status~~ mode and is not mute when it ~~has~~ is in the second ~~status~~ mode.

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17. (Currently amended) An electronic device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the electronic device is being used as a gaming device when it ~~has~~ is in the first status mode.

18. (Original) An electronic device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the exterior surface of the electronic device is directly or indirectly accessible to the user

19. (Original) An electronic device as claimed in claim 1 operable as a mobile cellular telephone

20. (Original) An electronic device as claimed in claim 1 operable as an accessory for a mobile cellular telephone.

21. (Previously presented) A user-replaceable cover for an electronic device as claimed in claim 1, providing at least the first portion of the exterior surface of the electronic device and comprising the actuator.

22. (Currently amended) A user-replaceable cover for an electronic device, the cover comprising:

a housing forming an exterior surface, wherein the housing is adapted to be removed by a user from the electronic device and replaced;

means for providing, when enabled, a first texture at a first portion of the exterior surface, and when disabled, a second texture at the first portion of the exterior surface;
and

an interface connected to the housing for forming an electrical connection with the electronic device.

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23. (Currently amended) A method of controlling an electronic device comprising:

providing a first configuration of a surface area of the electronic device;

receiving user input at the electronic device to change an operational mode of the device; and

providing a second configuration of the surface area of the electronic device instead of the first configuration based upon the user input changing the operational mode of the device.

24. (Currently amended) A mobile communication device comprising:

a housing;

mobile communication circuitry including a processor in the housing;

a device feature application adapted to be processed by the processor; and

an actuator coupled to the processor, wherein the processor is adapted to change a texture of a portion of the housing based upon an operational mode ~~status~~ of the device feature application.